REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Office Action Rejections Summary

Claims 1-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,748,884 of Royce et al. ("Royce").

Status of Claims

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 have been amended to more properly define a preexisting limitation by providing proper antecedent basis. The amended claims are supported by the specification. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. No claims have been canceled.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,748,884 of Royce et al. ("Royce"). It is submitted that claims 1-29 are patentable over Royce.

Claim 1, as amended, recites:

> A method, comprising:
> enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and
> enabling an advanced notification rule to **preempt** the standard notification <u>rule</u> upon the occurrence.

(emphasis added)

The Office Action states, in part:

> As per claims 1, 9, 17 and 25, Royce teaches a method comprising: . . .
> Enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification upon the occurrence (column 11, line 30 to column 12, line 25, **wherein an advanced notification takes precedence after escalation.**)

(Office Action, page 2)(emphasis added)

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's characterization of Royce. The Office Action appears to assert that "an advanced notification takes precedence after escalation" in Royce. (Office Action, page 2). It is respectfully submitted that no citation in Royce has been provided in support for such an assertion. In particular, the Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically identify what component in Royce is being read as "an advanced notification" and where Royce discloses that such "takes precedence after escalation. Furthermore, be that as it may, it is submitted that such a purported disclosure would still not anticipate the claim 1 recitation of enabling an advance notification **rule** to **preempt** a standard notification rule. Although Royce discloses the escalation of notifications (e.g., see abstract of Royce), nothing in Royce disclose the *preemption* of its standard notification rules.

In particular, Figure 3 of Royce illustrates its system's flow. The first high level process is the detection of a triggering event 302. The second high level process 304 is the analysis of the detected triggering event. The analysis of the detected triggering event 304 includes the determination of which notification service to perform. The last high-level process 306 is the actual autonotification process. The detection process 302 uses traps to identify and detect autonotification trigger events. To report a triggering event to the autonotification process 306, a detection message indicating the specific trigger event is sent to the analysis process 304. (Royce, col. 6, line 66 to col. 7, line 13; col. 8, lines 43-45; Fig. 3) In the autonotification process described in regards to Figure 7 (in particular, at the column 11, line 30 to column 12, line 25 passage cited to by the Office Action), Royce describes that step 704 will record the analysis message data, along with data retrieved from GLV2 402e, in dynamic global variable GLV1 401e, forming an autonotification message. In step 712, an Escalation Check process executes each minute and checks GLV1 401e to see if the next escalation is due. If the escalation time vs.

current timestamp indicates an escalation time is due, step 712 will trigger the paging process in step 714 and thereby the appropriate autonotification takes place. Accordingly, it is submitted that nothing in Royce discloses the preemption of its standard notification rules.

In contrast, claim 1 includes the limitation of "enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule." Therefore, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Royce. Given that claims 2-8 depend from and, therefore, include the limitations of claim 1, it is submitted that claims 2-8 are also patentable over the cited reference.

For reasons similar to those given above in regards to claim 1, it is submitted that claims 9-29 are also patentable over the cited reference.

In conclusion, applicants respectfully submit that in view of the arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome.
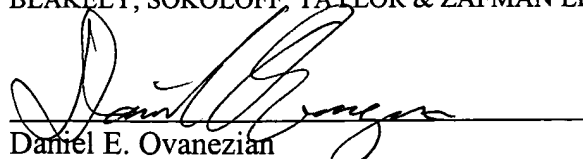
If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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